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paragraphs in which no pretense at organization is made though there is an approximation to a chronological order. Other sections have been organized into a more coherent narrative, but most readers will feel that the work as a whole lacks skilful interlinking and orderly development. A related weakness in the general impression which the volume makes lies in the fact that, though the literary background is definite and though much light is thrown on the social life of Southampton's group and on political movements, the sections dealing with Southampton's circle and his public life fail of that clear-cut statement and vividness in detail which can come only from an overflowing knowledge of the political and social background of the era. Consequently, the book, though in the main a faithful chronicle, lacks the inspiring quality of a constructive historical study.

C. R. BASKERVILL

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The Way of Saint James. By GEORGIANA GODDARD KING. Peninsular Series I, 3 vols., New York and London, 1920. Under the auspices of the Hispanic Society of New York.

These three handsome volumes are a labor of love. Miss King is well known for her researches in the early church architecture of Spain. Desiring to disentangle the various cross-influences which affected the early builders, she has undertaken a systematic study of that region where these currents met—the ancient pilgrimage route to Santiago de Compostela. For medieval builders and sculptors were ever on the road, notebook in hand, sketching what they saw, and often accepting employment in foreign parts. Miss King's important contribution, then, is her detailed study of each of the architectural monuments along the *camino francés*. How well she has succeeded must be left for ecclesiologists to determine. But the book also has interest for the student of medieval literature, now that the close connection between pilgrimage routes and epic song is so generally accepted.

Miss King devoted three tours and seven years of study to *The Way of Saint James*. Her method is that of a Richard Ford: field work supplemented by closet study. She approaches her subject from every angle, archaeology, history, church history including the survival of ancient cults, folk-lore, literature. She deserves praise for her adventurous spirit, perseverance in overcoming obstacles, endurance of discomfort, and industry in collecting material from recondite works. The result is a book, very readable, if diffuse and miscellaneous in content. Her range of reading is vast. It includes everything important bearing on her subject from the crabbed Latin documents collected in *España Sagrada* down to *Les légendes épiques*. The Old French and Provençal poets, the Spanish ballads, Chaucer, and many a medieval chronicler, traveler, and saint provide grist for her mill.

Only a very captious critic would object to the inclusion of so many of the author's personal experiences as beneath the dignity of scholarship. On the contrary the reviewer thinks that for the literary reader these are the passages of greatest interest. For Miss King vitalizes *The Way of Saint James*. The student of Bédier will find it no longer a mere itinerary, a catalogue of *étapes*. Her descriptions of the scenery along the way, helped out by well-chosen illustrations, bring the reader into close touch with the old pilgrim life.

GEORGE T. NORTHUP

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Gustavo Adolfo Bécquers Leben und Schaffen unter besonderer Betonung des chronologischen Elementes. Inaugural-Dissertation zur Erlangung der Doktor-würde der hohen philosophischen Fakultät der Universität Leipzig, vorgelegt von FRANZ SCHNEIDER. Leipzig, 1914.

This dissertation, for reasons connected with the war and reconstruction, has only recently been put into circulation. It is the most important piece of research in the modern Hispanic field that has appeared within the year. The author, now an instructor in German at the University of California, has shown once more how much may be done in connection with Spanish authors of the nineteenth century by those students able to work in the Madrid libraries. Even the greatest authors of the period are still uncritically edited, and the Biblioteca Nacional contains much unexploited material which the earlier critics have in their indolence neglected.

Mr. Schneider had the good fortune to discover an autograph MS of Bécquer's entitled "Libro de los gorriones," which contains the full text of the "Rimas." He establishes the fact that the first editor of the "Rimas," Ferrán, drew from this MS and did not collect the poems from newspapers, as had been supposed. Furthermore, like most editors of the time, he was unscrupulous in the handling of his text. Arbitrary "improvements" were introduced into at least half the poems. Three were omitted, and these Mr. Schneider now prints for the first time. In an Appendix he lists the more important variants. The "Libro de los gorriones" alone possesses textual authority. Bécquer made this copy with the utmost care and it should be published in its entirety. It is to be hoped that Mr. Schneider will complete his labors by giving us a critical text of Bécquer.

The dissertation contains the fullest biography of Bécquer yet written. The author has controlled all the printed and manuscript material, and has besides interviewed the few surviving acquaintances of the poet. Many details are added to what Blanco García, Valera, Nombela, Olmsted, and